

Appl. No. 10/799,175  
Response to Office Action mailed April 25, 2005

Atty Dkt. No. 114208-023

### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph of the specification at page 13, line 16 – page 15, line 1 as follows.

The outside portion 12 of the reinforcement portion 10 is formed adjacent to the inside portion 11 and the outside portion 12 is formed of thicker ribs 13b, 13c than the ribs 13a in the inside portion 11. The ribs 13b are formed such that they extend in parallel in a width direction of the fastener tape 3 and have a predetermined interval therebetween in a length direction of the fastener tape 3. Preferably, the sectional shape of the ribs 13b is an isosceles triangle while the inclination angle of the side face is about  $60^\circ$  as shown in FIG. 7, that is, the angle  $\alpha$  shown in FIG. 7 satisfies the condition of  $\alpha \leq 30^\circ$ . By securing a large interval between the ribs 13b and forming the sectional shape of the ribs 13b into the shape described above, the frequency that a sewing needle may contact the ribs 13b when the fastener stringer 2 is sewed to a sewing object is reduced thereby preventing the ribs 13b from being damaged. Further, front ends of the plural ribs 13b are connected by a rib 13c extending in the length direction of the fastener tape 3. The rib 13c has a parallel portion 13c-1 extending in a parallel direction with the length direction of the fastener tape 3 at a bottom end side of the outside portion 12 and a bent portion 13c-2 bending in a direction parting from an outside edge portion of the fastener tape 3 at an upper end side of the outside portion 12. The rib 13c has the same sectional shape as that of the rib 13b. Due to the bent portion 13c-2 of 13c, the rib 13b and the rib 13c-2 are connected at obtuse angle at an upper corner of a frame 16. Therefore, since the upper corner of the frame 16 is not acuminate, the upper corner of the frame 16 of the reinforcement portion 10 are prevented from hitching other object and thereby separation of the reinforcement portion 10 from the fastener tape 3 is avoided. In the reinforcement portion 10 of the outside portion 12, the frame 16 is formed with the rib 13b and the rib 13c, thereby forming a stable configuration. Consequently, when the fastener stringer 2 is nipped with fingers, it is easy to be nipped because an appropriate stiffness exists, so that the operation of the bottom end stop can be carried out easily.

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Amend the paragraph of the specification at page 16, line 10 – page 17, line 12 as follows.

The outside portion 12 of the reinforcement portion 10 is formed continuously with the inside portion 11 like the fastener stringer 2 loaded with the box pin 8 and the outside portion 12 is formed of thicker ribs 13b, 13c than the ribs 13a in the inside portion 11. The ribs 13b are so provided that they extend in parallel in a width direction of the fastener tape 3 toward the outside of the fastener tape 3 and have a predetermined interval therebetween in a length direction of the fastener tape 3, the front ends of which are connected by the rib 13c extending in the length direction of the fastener tape 3 so as to form the ~~flame~~ frame 16. The rib 13c has the parallel ~~portion~~ portion 13c-1 extending in the parallel direction with the length direction of the fastener tape 3 at the bottom end side of the outside portion 12 and the bent portion 13c-2 bending in the direction parting from the outside edge portion of the fastener tape 3 at the upper end side of the outside portion 12. Due to the bent ~~portion~~ portion 13c-2 of 13c, the rib 13b and the rib 13c-2 are connected at obtuse angle at the upper corner of a ~~flame~~ frame 16. Therefore, since the upper corner of the ~~flame~~ frame 16 is not acuminate, the upper corner of the ~~flame~~ frame 16 of the reinforcement portion 10 are prevented from hitching other object and thereby separation of the reinforcement portion 10 from the fastener tape 3 is avoided. Each of the ribs 13b and 13c is formed such that the sectional shape is an isosceles triangle and the inclination angle of the side face is about 60°, so that contact with the sewing needle is avoided at the time of sewing of the fastener stringer 2, thereby protecting the ribs 13 from a damage.